

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 IOE-00 OIC-04 AF-10 ARA-16 EA-11

NEA-14 RSC-01 OMB-01 TRSE-00 EB-11 AID-20 SS-20 NSC-07

SP-03 L-03 H-03 CIAE-00 COME-00 INR-11 LAB-06 NSAE-00

SIL-01 PRS-01 PA-04 USIA-15 AGR-20 XMB-07 CIEP-03

FRB-03 STR-08 DRC-01 /244 W
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FM AMEMBASSY VIENNA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3631

INFO :USMISSION USUN NY PRIORITY 2735

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EO 11652: NA

TAGS: UNIDO AFIN OCON

SUBJ: UNIDO GROUP B/GENEVA GROUP MEETINGS

REF : (A) VIENNA 7368; (B) VIENNA 6793; (C) VIENNA A-365

SUMMARY: GROUP B MEETING HAS BEEN SCHEDULED FOR SEPT 3. MEETING TRIGGERED BY NEED TO SELECT NEW CHAIRMAN DUE TO SUDDEN TRANSFER OF DE LIEDEKERKE (BELGIUM) WHO SERVED AS GROUP B CHAIRMAN DURING PERIOD OF PC-IV AND IDB-VIII. END SUMMARY.

1. PROPOSED AGENDA ALSO INCLUDES (A) SITUATION CONCERNING UNIDO DELIVERY OF TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROJECTS AND CONCOMITANT FINANCIAL CRISIS; (B) PREPARATIONS FOR LIMA CONFERENCE INCLUDING INTER-GROUP CONTACTS; (C) SITUATION REGARDING EXECUTIVE DIRECTORSHIP; (D) REORGANIZATION OF EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S OFFICE.

2. SUCCESSOR OF DE LIEDEKERKE WILL PROBABLY BE ASKED TO SERVE THROUGH DEC-JAN MEETINGS OF PR-V.

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3. AS REGARDS ITEM (A) PARA ONE ABOVE, BRIEF DISCUSSIONS WITH

UK AND FRG TODAY INDICATE FOLLOWING SCENARIO MAY DEVELOP: GROUP B MEETING WOULD BE OCCASION FOR GENERAL EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION ON SITUATION WHICH HAS LED TO FINANCIAL CRISIS PROVOKING GOHOREL'S IMPOSITION OF RECRUITMENT FREEZE AND ABDEL-RAHMAN'S SUBSEQUENT LETTER TO DAVIDSON (REF A) AND EXCHANGE OF VIEWS ON UNIDO DIFFICULTIES IN KEEPING UP WITH RAPIDLY INCREASING PIPE-LINE OF UNDP PROJECTS. (ROTHBLUM, DEPUTY DIRECTOR TCD ESTIMATES THAT TO KEEP UP WITH UNDP "ORDER BOOK" UNIDO SHOULD CURRENTLY BE DELIVERING ABOUT \$40 MILLION OF TA PROJECTS ANNUALLY COMPARED WITH THE \$23-25 MILLION LEVEL WHICH IT HAS ACTUALLY ACHIEVED). PROBLEM OF HOW UNIDO DEFICITS ON BOTH REGULAR BUDGET ACCOUNT AND OVERHEADS SHOULD BE DEALT WITH AND, SPECIFICALLY, WHAT ATTITUDE GENEVA GROUP COUNTRIES SHOULD TAKE TOWARDS VARIOUS ALTERNATIVE POSSIBILITIES (E.G. THOSE POSED BY ABDEL-RAHMAN TO DAVIDSON, PARA 3 REF A) WOULD BE EXAMINED IN DETAIL SUBSEQUENTLY IN UNIDO GENEVA GROUP PRIOR TO TIME WHEN FIFTH COMMITTEE MAY BE FACED WITH REQUEST FOR UNIDO SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION FOR 1974/1975. TO BE MEANINGFUL SUCH DISCUSSION WOULD REQUIRE GENEVA GROUP COUNTRIES INTER ALIA TO DEVELOP CLEARER VIEW OF HOW TO HANDLE PROBLEM OF GAP BETWEEN ACTUAL OVERHEAD COSTS AND UNDP PAYMENTS. EVEN WITH VARIOUS MANAGERIAL AND PROGRAMMING REFORMS REDUCTION OF UNIDO OVERHEAD COSTS FROM PRESENT HIGH LEVEL OF ABOUT 31 PERCENT TO MORE MANAGEABLE FIGURE WILL BE SLOW PROCESS.

4. RE ITEM (B) PARA ONE ABOVE, SHALL USE MEETING TO CHECK ON STATUS OF GROUP B RESPONSES TO ABDEL-RAHMAN'S JUNE 21 NOTE (VIENNA 6372). WE ASSUME, HOWEVER, THAT SITUATION IN THIS REGARD HAS NOT CHANGED SUBSTANTIALLY FROM WHERE MATTERS STOOD AT JULY 16 GROUP B MEETING.

5. FOR USUN: WOULD APPRECIATE ANY INFO USUN MAY HAVE ON REACTION IN NEW YORK SECRETARIAT TO ABDEL-RAHMAN'S LETTER TO DAVIDSON, IF POSSIBLE IN TIME FOR SEPT 3 MEETING. STIBRAVY

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